

Amendments to the Abstract

Please amend the Abstract as follows. A clean, non-marked up copy of the amended Abstract appears on its own sheet attached to this Amendment and Response.

The invention pertains to a device for the 3D free-form bending of profiles with arbitrary, but constant outside dimensions over the profile length, particularly hollow profiles, wherein the profile (7) to be bent has a longitudinal axis (L) and is moved through the through-opening (4e) of a guide element (4) adjoining the profile surface and a bending sleeve (5) that is arranged downstream of the guide element (4) referred to the feed direction (V) and held in a carrier element (4) in a feed direction (V) that extends parallel to the longitudinal axis (L), namely by means of a feed unit (3) that contains a rotary drive. The bending sleeve (5) can be pivoted about an axis that extends perpendicular to the feed direction (V) and displaced perpendicular to the longitudinal axis (L) of the profile (7) such that it acts upon the profile (7) in a bending fashion. The device is characterized in that, when turning the profile (7) about its longitudinal axis (L) by means of the feed unit (3), the guide element (4) and the bending sleeve (5) can be turned with the profile (7). This allows the three-dimensional bending of profiles (7), in particular, with non-circular cross section.